

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 were pending in this application. Claims 1-16 are cancelled. New claims 17-28 have been added. No new subject matter is believed to have been added by these amendments. Therefore, claims 17-28 remain in this application.

Abstract of the Disclosure

The Abstract has been amended to overcome the various objections of the Examiner. Reconsideration of the rejections of the Abstract is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the term “automatic” of the preamble is not supported by the specification. New independent claim 17, having the same preamble as original claim 1, does not include the “automatic” limitations. The removal of this limitation should not limit the claimed system to either automatic operation or manual operation, as both such operations are encompassed by the claim. Reconsideration of the enablement rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the processes performed by the components of claims 1 and 15 do not involve any active, positive steps delimiting how the processes are actually practiced. Applicants cancelled claims 1-16 and have added new claims 17-28 that address and overcome the Examiner’s rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration of the indefinite rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph, for failing the “means 3-prong analysis.” New claims 17-28 have been rewritten to allow the means-plus function to pass the “means 3-prong analysis” or have been rewritten to remove

the means-plus function altogether. In either case, Applicants believe they have overcome the Examiner's rejection and respectfully request reconsideration thereof.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejections

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the Examiner deems these claims to be directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-16 and have introduced new claims 17-28 in which the various subsystems are claimed as being configured to perform a positive step. Accordingly, the various subsystems when taken as a functional whole, achieve a useful, concrete, and tangible result, namely, the ability to generate presentations based on annotated templates, analogical examples, and slides. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the aforementioned rejections.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness based upon "Tips for Building Computer-Based Presentations," by Chial Michael R., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin – Madison, copyright 2002 (hereinafter "the Chial publication") in view of the ability of one having ordinary skill in the art to combine the various subsystems to produce a presentation.

The Chial publication basically discloses the planning, producing, and delivering of presentations to audiences using computer-based tools such as PowerPoint. These tools offer excellent features to support organizing, editing, and presenting a variety of media (e.g., text, audio, video) (Page 1, Second Paragraph). The Chial publication discloses how an agenda helps in identifying the subject and manner of approach (Page 2, Section 2). A goal defines the expected impact on the audience members based on the presentation (Page 2, Section 2). The production of a presentation must be based on the right template that fits the defined goal (of the presentation), form and format of content, the mode of presentation (such as on-screen or web-browser based), color schemes that avoid contrast and visibility issues, and the general principle of simplicity and consistency (Page 4, Section 2.A). Having

to insert text and non-text material into slides, it is appropriate to emphasize textual material for visual effects and non-textual material for effects such as color and motion (Page 4 – 5, Section D). The used template can be edited for template attributes (e.g., size, placement, color), for frame-level object attributes, and for misspellings (Page 5, Section E). Alternative presentations (e.g., cartoons, photographs, flow charts) may be used for effect (Page 3, Section E).

The Chial publication simply describes tips for using tools such as PowerPoint (a) to incorporate “frames” (each of which may contain a mix of text, charts, or other images); (b) to incorporate sound, animations, or movie clips; and (c) to deliver the presentations in various ways such as printed material and self-playing kiosk programs. These tips are meant for human beings who have knowledge and information, and help them relate their knowledge and information to deliver presentations to audiences using computer-based tools. These tips assist in orienting a presentation to purpose, goal, agenda, and audience, and suggest sequencing and prioritizing of ideas and evidence in a way that works well. Having organized and sequenced the content, the tips describe how to present the same, while keeping in mind multimedia content and visual appeal. In particular, templates help select alternative ways of creating layout for content and content positioning, color schemes, animations, and text formats.

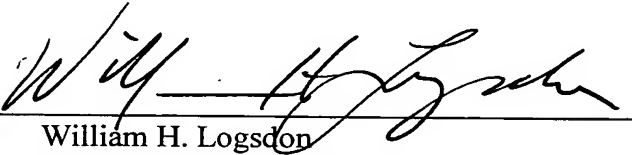
Typically, in a large organization, the knowledge is vastly distributed across the organization. Many a times, presentations are created and delivered by a sales force that might not have all the content that is required for presentations within themselves. Furthermore, the time available for planning, content gathering, and content sequencing is very minimal. There are research teams within the organization that generate content for their own presentations and, naturally, the organization stands to gain if such collective content could be made use of in every presentation. While the tips suggested in the Chial publication are very useful for individuals who possess knowledge, it is impractical to expect the full utility of such tips in larger organizations. These tips are necessary but are insufficient. The proposed invention is focused on filling this gap. The revised scope of the invention, as set forth in the claims, clearly outlines a practical and useful means for addressing the issues relating to distributed knowledge and with minimal preparation time availability.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of pending claims 17-28 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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